

REMARKS

The present amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated July 2, 2004, which set a three-month period for response, making this amendment due by October 2, 2004.

Claims 2-6 and 8-12 are pending in this application.

In the Office Action, claims 1 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,341,062 to Scudder. Claims 5, 6, 11, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Scudder in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,805,612 to Beard.

The Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 2-4 and 8-10, if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In light of the allowance of these claims, in this amendment, claims 2-4 and 8-10 have been rewritten in allowable form, and claims 1 and 7 have been canceled. The remaining claims were amended to change claim dependencies, where necessary.

The Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-6 and 8-12 as presented herein now stand in condition for allowance. Action to this end is courteously solicited.

Should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, the undersigned would very much welcome a telephone call in order to discuss

appropriate claim language that will place the application into condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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